

## VIRGINIA HIGHWAYS AND ROAD MAINTENANCE

Roads, Once Good, Easily Kept in That Condition—Cost Less Than Patching Bad Roads.

**SOME COUNTY BOARDS DERELICT**  
Good Roads Fever Spreading in Old Dominion—More Bond Issues to Be Voted—Twentieth-Century Methods for Upkeep Called For.

The sentiment in favor of good roads is growing in Virginia. Many counties already are boasting of their splendid highways, and others that have been backward are taking lessons from the progressive counties. The reports are to the effect that in numerous districts where elections are to be held on bond issues for road building, some of them this week the same time as the elections for members of the Legislature, the "good roads fever" has taken such deep hold on the people that there is but little doubt that in most cases bonds will be voted.

In the meantime the people and the officials are studying the general subject of improved highways, and are beginning to consider one aspect that has not heretofore received very much attention in Virginia, and that is the maintenance of the roads after they have been built. In some of the counties, too many of them, where much money was spent to build superior highways, no provision was made for the necessary maintenance, and this, of course, caused a great deal of dissatisfaction, and incidentally strengthened the hands and given unnecessary force to the arguments of the old fogies who oppose bond issues by counties or districts for the building of highways.

### PLACING RESPONSIBILITY WHERE IT BELONGS

This is a matter that good roads advocates are beginning to give more and more attention to. Here a county builds a road and then neglects it and lets it become rutty, washed out, or uneven, who or what is principally to blame? As a result of a study of conditions in the various counties, the expert road specialists are inclined to place the responsibility upon the following defects in road management, some or all of which are found in all the counties where good roads are not properly repaired and maintained:

1. The county boards of Supervisors, though having full administrative authority, appear not to attach to their official action in road matters the importance or legal effect which it should have.

2. County boards do not generally have sufficient accounting control of road funds to know what is available for any particular project. Where funds have been or where existing balances are not kept up to date, no systematic practice in handling road funds among most counties makes it very difficult to carry out even the simplest year.

3. Lack of any systematic practice in handling road funds among most counties makes it very difficult to carry out even the simplest year. The county boards are not protected against sporadic and irregular drafts for miscellaneous purposes. The greatest likelihood consequently exists everywhere that there will be no balance in the maintenance fund in the year half or three-quarters of the year, although only a part of the fund allotted may have been spent.

4. Local labor available for maintenance work is made dissatisfied by the constant maintenance, and unfavorable criticism of those using the road.

5. Maintenance continuing over a period of years—the ultimate indispensable element of effective maintenance—is jeopardized by the lack of accounting control that will prevent spending next year's current income in this year.

6. The lack of skilled supervision in construction and the effect of this in increasing the cost or in making effective maintenance impossibly expensive is everywhere seen.

The county authorities are commonly opposed to following suggestions for maintenance that involve tying up road funds in any way, such as purchasing materials in advance to keep along the road for making repairs or maintaining the road surface.

### TWENTIETH CENTURY METHODS TO BE ADOPTED

The split log drag, if properly used and at the right time, will do a great deal in the way of keeping the roads from washing, keeping ruts filled and otherwise improving the road and it is a cheap enough contrivance, but it seems to be nobody's business, so the experts say, to supply and look after the drag.

One thing is certain, it is a waste of money to build good roads and then leave them to take care of themselves. Once get a good road and it does not need as much to keep it good as it does to repair a bad one. The boards of supervisors in some of the counties of Virginia in which good roads have been made have found this out, and are making fairly good use of their knowledge. But, apparently, some other boards have not stumbled upon this important fact. It is to be hoped that in time all of them will wake up and adopt and carry out twentieth century methods.

### OUTLOOK FOR LUMBERMEN

**Big Deal That Is Significant—Spirits of Sawmill Folks Taking a Hint.**

The following from the current issue of the Manufacturers Record will prove especially interesting to the many lumber mill men of Virginia. "Outside of the magnitude of the transaction, which in itself is of interest, the sale of 47,000,000 feet of Southern pine timber and boards for an amount approximating \$1,000,000, just completed by representatives of the Italian government, is of great significance because of the fact that this sale cleans up practically all the old saw and surplus stocks and common boards which the mills of the South have been carrying. It means that these mills will now be able to go ahead and cut new stocks at advanced prices. It is the belief of sawmill men that the sale makes possible an immediate advance of \$2 a thousand on sawn stocks and cut boards. As the lumber industry has experienced a long period of depression and has been unable to get to feel a slight improvement, the changed conditions will be of the greatest benefit, not only to the yellow-pine interests of the country, but will have an important bearing on the general prosperity of the entire South. It is a condition of the sale that shipments are to be completed by December 15."

**Blackstone Sees Light Again.**  
BLACKSTONE, VA., October 30.—Blackstone begins to see the light again after the destructive fire which totally destroyed its electric light and water pumping plants. The authorities have arranged to rebuild both plants, and it is said they are to be a great improvement on the ones that were burned and to be large enough to provide for Blackstone's inevitable increase in population.

## LEAF TOBACCO TRAFFIC; THE BRIGHTS AND DARKS

Light Business on Richmond Warehouse Floors Due to Changes in Weather.

**HEAVY BUSINESS IN BRIGHTS**  
Danville Had Blocked Sales—Large Deliveries for South Boston and Chase City—Sweetest and Best Flavored Crop Ever Grown.

While the Virginia markets on which the dark shipping tobaccos and the sun-cured working stocks are sold are slow getting busy this season, the bright markets of both Virginia and North Carolina are on the rush and seem to be trying to break all the records for such an early part of the season.

Contrary to expectation, the breaks on the Richmond market were smaller the past week than the week before. The total sales of the sun-cured goods hardly reaching 50,000 pounds. The small deliveries are attributed to the change in the weather, the crisp winds "hardening" the leaf that had been stripped and also drying out the farm lands, thus giving the farmers the opportunity they had been waiting for to finish getting up corn and do plowing for next year's crop. This left them no time to market the weed. The market there was quiet, but firm and on the goods sold at auction the stiff prices that the season started off with were well maintained. Reports from the bright markets are given below.

### Heavy Breaks in Danville.

DANVILLE, VA., October 30.—Sales have been heavy this week, and blocked several days. The quality has been good to medium, with scarcity of color. The condition has been a decided improvement over former offerings, and prices in consequence show an advance. This is particularly noticeable in low grades, but all grades are somewhat stiffer.

There is a full corps of buyers in daily attendance on the breaks. The large corporations are buying freely. The dealers are not buying as freely as heretofore. Continued heavy sales are looked for whenever weather admits.

### Prices Advancing in South Boston.

SOUTH BOSTON, VA., October 30.—Sales for the week on this market amounted to over 100,000 pounds. There were heavy all-day sales at the beginning of the week, but were considerably lighter on Wednesday and Thursday, falling only about half a day. Sales on Friday were full, and lasted all day.

Prices show a decided upward tendency. The market displays much animation, and is closely watched by both foreign and domestic concerns, all of whom seem to want tobacco.

While not so deficient in color, and while containing only a small per cent of very common tobacco and an equally small percentage of high-class fancy tobacco, the present crop is, without a doubt, one of the sweetest and best flavored that ever grew out of the ground. Weather is taking advantage of the present good weather to get up corn, prepare grain land, etc., consequently sales are not expected to be very heavy until the next good season. As compared with last week, there was a great improvement in the condition of the offerings.

### Like Old Times in Chase City.

CHASE CITY, VA., October 30.—Sales on the local tobacco market this week have resembled much the sales of three years ago, before folks began to cry hard times. Each of the four warehouses here have had large sales every day, and more tobacco was sold on Monday of this week than has been sold on a Monday for several years. The quality continues about the same, being medium working tobacco, and while prices have had a tendency upward, no material advances have been made.

About 200,000 pounds have been sold this week, and the average price remains between 9 and 10 cents, where it has stood since the market opened in September.

### Small Receipts in Rocky Mount.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C., October 30.—The receipts for the past week have been smaller than expected, amounting at about 125,000 pounds, at an average of \$14 per 100 pounds. This brings the total for the season to date to about \$125 for the season, being a gain of nearly 500,000 pounds, and a slight increase in the average over the past season.

The offerings have not been as good as former weeks; the crop is being lost color since being cured, and a larger proportion of undesirable tobaccos, of undecided character, showing up daily. However, however, continue to appear in liberal quantities, and the competition is stronger than for several years past, some bringing as high as \$12 per 100 pounds, and many piles selling from \$9 to \$10.

Prices on the medium grades have advanced during the week, and the planters have been highly satisfied.

### Durham Makes a Good Average.

DURHAM, N. C., October 30.—The past week has been a busy one with the Durham warehouse men. The market has been something remarkable. The farmers have been rolling it in and sales have lasted all day until late in the evenings. Some days there was as much as 250,000 pounds on the warehouse floors, and the week for the week, which cannot be obtained just at this writing, will be a record-breaker for the Durham market.

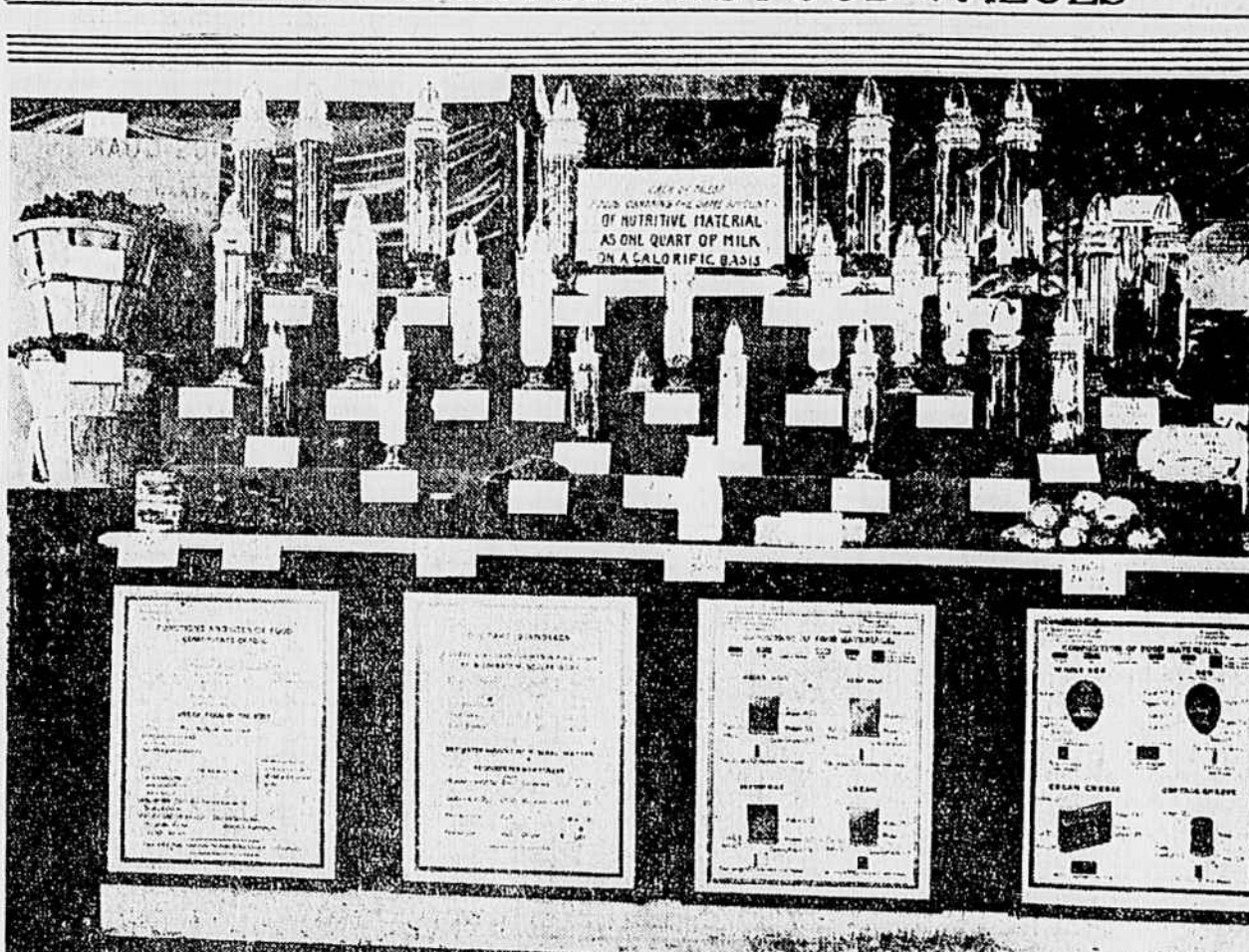
Not only has the quantity of tobacco offered been enormous, but the price paid to the growers has set a new record for the present season. Some of the lots sold for fancy prices, while the general average price per pound was a fraction more than 20 cents.

The general tendency among the tobacco growers seems to be to market their product now, and as a rule they are apparently very well satisfied with the results of the sales. The four tobacco houses on last Monday alone, just one day, sold 235,000 pounds for \$28,500. And it has been pretty much this way all the week.

### Blackstone's Darks and Brights.

BLACKSTONE, VA., October 30.—The tobacco sales have been light for the past week, the town selling 60,000 pounds, both dark and bright, which were fairly evenly divided.

## EXHIBIT THAT SHOWS FOOD VALUES



## MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS FOR RICHMOND

Review and Outlook for a Week. Money Easy—Merchants Happy. Collections Good.

The special local report of affairs commercial and Richmond trade conditions by R. G. Dun & Co., for The Times-Dispatch is as follows:

The expansion in general business that has been going on for the past two months is unchecked; merchants in nearly all lines are transacting a normal or almost normal volume of business. The condition of the market is marked by a steady advance in prices, and the outlook is favorable. Groceries, as well as hardware, are being ordered more freely, and the active demand for harness and saddlery goods continues. Cooler weather has increased the demand for merchandise at retail, and goods are being disposed of at season prices. Local markets are well supplied with truck stuff, but there is a scarcity of butter and eggs, with steadily advancing price. The improvement locally in business is marked by bank activity; clearings with Richmond banks have advanced from \$8,000,000 or \$9,000,000 a week to over \$12,000,000. The week ending October 24 and 25 show respectively clearings of \$10,917,442, \$12,651,821 and \$12,377,128.

The offerings of local tobacco on local floors have not been large, although the price has been good. Government crop reports continue encouraging. From present prospects the yield of tobacco for Virginia is 141,000,000 pounds, as compared with 114,000,000 in North Carolina, 158,000,000 in South Carolina, and 172,000,000 in the United States.

The yield of corn in Virginia is estimated at 62,000,000 bushels, as compared with 39,000,000 last year; the yield in North Carolina is estimated at 59,000,000, compared with 57,000,000 in 1914.

A favorable feature for this neighborhood is the condition of cotton. While the condition of the crop is not the whole lot averages only 50 per cent of normal, the condition in Virginia is 80 per cent, and in North Carolina 70 per cent. The average in Virginia is 30,000, which is 80 per cent of last year, and in North Carolina 1,333,000 acres, which is 80 per cent of last year.

## THE COLLEGE ON WHEELS: MOST SUCCESSFUL TOUR

Hundreds of Virginia Farmers Go to Meet Norfolk and Western's Free Instruction

NORFOLK, VA., October 30.—The Agricultural and Dairy College on Wheels, being run over the Norfolk and Western lines by that road in co-operation with the College of Agriculture, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and the United States government's farmers' extension and demonstration work, reached here on time this afternoon, and a large congregation of farmers, wives, sons and daughters, together with business men of Norfolk turned out to meet the train and attend the "free better farming demonstration." The train made its first stop at Tidewater this week at Salem, where at least 1,000 people, 700 of whom were school children, were visited, then Elkhorn and Christiansburg had a turn, with Wednesday given entirely to Giles County, three stops being made. Not less than 100 people were at each of the three stations, Eggleston, Lippincott and Narrows, and at the latter place there were several hundred. Schools were closed that teachers might come with their scholars, stores looked up while the train was at the depot, and some farmers came from as far as fifteen miles in the country.

Thursday's stops and one of Friday's were in Tazewell County, Graham, Tipton and Tazewell, and on Friday morning at Richmond. The train then passed into Russell County, and at noon stopped at Honaker, and in the afternoon at Cleveland. The next stop was this (Friday), the first stop at 5 o'clock this morning, being at St. Paul. After the morning here, the train made the noon stop at Coburn, and then came on to this place for the last meeting of the week. At all of these points in Tazewell, Russell and Wise Counties the "College on Wheels" had a large attendance as at the other points named, and in some instances even larger. The farmers of this part of Virginia were never more enthusiastic or more anxious to learn the tricks of twentieth century agriculture.

## PAINTS

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## SPOTSWOOD IRON MINES RELIC OF OLDEN TIMES

Bar of the Iron That May Have Been Dug in Governor Spotswood's Day

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., October 30.—In the ancient days when Alexander Spotswood and his company of friends started from the Governor's home in the "Wilderness" in Spotsylvania County, near this city, to explore the country to the west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, tradition has it that to protect the feet of their horses from being worn by the rock of the mountains, Governor Spotswood devised the horseshoe and had them made at his forge in the "Wilderness" from iron taken from his mines in Spotsylvania County. This was nearly two centuries ago, and this has authorized the purchase of something like \$2,000,000 worth of new equipment, including freight and passenger locomotives of the larger kind, immense steel coal cars, and many freight cars. Now comes the information that this road is putting in hurry orders for all of this equipment.

The Atlantic Coast Line has just placed an additional order with the American Car and Foundry Company for 200 heavy flat cars with which to handle the increased lumber business on their Virginia and North Carolina lines.

## NEW RAILWAY EQUIPMENT FOR PROSPERITY'S WAVE

Goods of the South Buying Largely. Getting Ready to Handle Increasing Business.

The railways of the South have an abundance of faith in the returning prosperity of the country in general, and the South in particular, judging from the way they are going ahead with buying and contracting for new equipment, the improving of tracks and the double-tracking of their lines. It is not that they may be the better able to handle the increased and constantly increasing business they see. It has been already announced in these columns that the Chesapeake and Ohio has authorized the purchase of something like \$2,000,000 worth of new equipment, including freight and passenger locomotives of the larger kind, immense steel coal cars, and many freight cars. Now comes the information that this road is putting in hurry orders for all of this equipment.

## QUICK RAILWAY WORK

Four Miles of Road to Be Built and Running Inside of Sixty Days.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., October 30.—The Piedmont and Northern Railway have contracted for the building of a branch line from Belmont Junction to the town of Belmont, four miles distant, and the contract calls for the completion of the line by December 22. Freight and passenger service shall begin within fifteen days thereafter. The contractors have commenced the work of construction and are working with the car building works at High Point for the necessary cars which are to be furnished in time for this quick work.

## H. W. Goodwyn

Who retired from the bar in 1911, account ill health, is resuming practice of the law, and is a member of the bar.

GARDNER & GOODWYN, 621, 622 American Nat'l Bank Bldg.

## SAVE FUEL

Do you expect to heat your building with from 100 to 2,000 bricks omitted from the walls, allowing air to enter at will any and every room?

A space one-sixteenth of an inch wide around a window amounts to an area the size of a brick. Most windows have a play space of from one-eighth to one-quarter of an inch, equal to from one to four bricks.

If you wish to prevent unsanitary conditions and want to heat your building cheaply and well, and if you want to properly regulate ventilation, use the ATBEE CLOTHED METAL WEATHER STRIPS on all windows and doors, both wood and metal, old and new.

Call or Phone

Richmond Metal Weather Strip Co.

Tenth and Main Streets, Richmond, Va.

## Be Safe Stop and Think

A man never feels quite so good as when he knows he is safe on a thing.

Most men work hard to provide and protect their families, but if many of them would stop and think a minute, they would realize that the worry of the protection could easily be eliminated.

I'd like to talk with you about it.

C. B. Richardson

GENERAL AGENT.

## Views and Near Views; Hints and Suggestions

The Great Value of Fruit.

One of the good doctors visiting Richmond last week, and, of course, he came from the apple-growing hills, submits the following suggestions: For its appetizing values fruit should be eaten before meals. If taken as a dessert at the end of the meal fruit has its best effect from the nutritive standpoint. For its laxative properties, fruit should be taken on an empty stomach, preferably soon after rising in the morning, and for any and all of these purposes much fruit should be eaten by everybody.

## And Now for More Cattle Raising.

Nine thousand three hundred and sixty square miles of the territory of four States, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina have recently been released from quarantine, as free from the cattle tick, and thus that much more Southern territory is added to Virginia as fine cattle growing territory. The South, especially Virginia, is the coming great cattle-raising country of the world.

## To All of Which Say Amen.

"I would rather be an optimist, seeking the star that pierces the night gloom, or looking for the silver lining to the sable cloud, than be a pessimist, searching for fuel to heap upon the smoldering fires of despair." Such is the language of Henry Clay Yawn, of Mississippi, a business hustler, a flowery writer. He writes a good deal about the things he would rather be and rather not be, but the above is enough to copy just now in order to give the army of able-bodied who read this paper an opportunity to say "Amen" to the proposition.

Up-to-date, sanitary and druggery-saving conveniences as appropriate for the home as machinery is for the factory, the elevator for the four-story store or the typewriter for the business man, and to this the women folks will all agree.

One well-fed hen is better than two half-starved ones, says a poultry journal. The same is true of hard-worked business men.

## Making Projectiles for Uncle Sam.

RALEIGH, N. C., October 30.—While Raleigh has not been able to get any slice of the patronage of the warring nations it will get right busy ere long making munitions. The Raleigh Iron Works Company has planned to enlarge its plant to enable it to fill orders for target projectiles for the United States Navy. The smaller projectiles are now made up to 25 pounds, but the works are bidding for the largest size made, 5 feet 9 inches in length.

## Richmond Building Fertilizer Plant.

RICHMOND, VA., October 30.—P. R. Thomas, of Richmond, has made an important investment here. He has purchased eight and one-half acres of land which has a water front of 300 feet and runs back about 1,200 feet. It is Mr. Thomas's intention to build on the site this acquired a fertilizer plant that will cost when completed and equipped between \$75,000 and \$100,000.

## NUTRITIOUS COWS' MILK AND OTHER COMMON FOODS

Quart of Milk, Costing 8 Cents, Will Go Nine Times as Far as Oysters.

BROUGHT OUT BY COMPARISONS

Results of Investigation Down to Fine Point—Interesting Exhibits and Tables Shown by State's Dairy and Food Department.

One of the most instructive, as well as attractive exhibits at the recent State Fair, and which is to be reproduced at the Peninsula Fair, at Newport News next week, was that of the Dairy and Food Division of the State Department, of which Benjamin L. Purcell is the commissioner. The exhibit was in charge of Professor J. Craig Hunter, who arranged it in the big brick exposition building.

The part of the Dairy and Food Division's exhibit which was so very instructive, and which was something brand new at the State Fair, was a collection of some forty or fifty different articles of food in common use, put up with preservatives in glass jars, each containing the same amount of nutritive material on a calorie basis as one quart of milk, upon which an instructive table of figures and comparisons was made out.

Adjoining this interesting exhibit were charts that illustrated and explained the various chemical constituents, nutritive values, digestibility, etc., of the foods shown. There were also bulletins that go deeper in the whole matter, but this article is not to describe the exhibit in detail, but to tell those who did not see it and will not see it next week in Newport News of the important information it furnished.

## AMOUNT OF NUTRIMENT ONE QUART OF MILK

Each of the forty or fifty foods so attractively exhibited contains approximately the same amount of nutritive (Continued on Eighth Page.)

## WANTED SECOND-HAND BAGS & BURLAP

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We Buy ALL KINDS—any quantity, quality or condition.

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Model MA is the latest model of a truck we have sold by thousands for eight years, and that has proved itself just right for quick deliveries and light hauling.

Air-cooled, heavy-duty motor—the long wearing kind with power to spare.

One lever control, simple and easy to manage.

Roller bearings in transmission and countershaft.

We recommend this truck to retail merchants who want an economical, up-to-date delivery system, and to contractors to use when hauling men and material from one job to another.

At \$600, this Model MA is a remarkably good buy.

We also have other models: M, water-cooled, of 1,000 pounds capacity, at \$710; E, of 1,500 pounds capacity, at \$950; and F, of 2,000 pounds capacity, at \$1,500 for the chassis only. All prices cash f. o. b. Akron, O.

Write the nearest address for complete information and get a line on International Harvester service before and after the sale.

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